

**Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee  
(SSTMD AC) Meeting Summary  
October 11, 2007**

**2b**

- 1. Introductions:** Members and guests introduced themselves. Attendance sheet attached.
- 2. Review of minutes:** Noting the absence of a quorum, there was no formal approval of the September minutes. Members reviewed the minutes with no changes recommended. Both sets of minutes (September and October) will be available for review and approval at the November meeting.
- 3. Chair's Comments:** **Jim Polk** stated that he hopes to have a draft of a position paper regarding the Purple Line at the November meeting.
- 4. IOS Update:** **Donald Scheuerman**, DPWT/Division of Capital Development, introduced himself and discussed the status of the Interim Operations Site (IOS). Work has been underway for some time -- clearing trees, expanding sidewalks, etc. -- to prepare the surrounding neighborhood areas to receive buses once the IOS becomes operational early next year.

Among the projects currently underway:

- Mid block pedestrian crossings continue to be an ongoing concern. Wayne Avenue has an attractive iron fence down the median to discourage jaywalking. The Colesville median will have some decorative features that, in addition to attractiveness, will discourage mid-block crossing.
- Some traffic and pedestrian signals are receiving upgrades.
- The intersection at Georgia and Wayne has been widened.
- The bridge and path to the MARC platform are close to being finished.
- There will be a handicapped access ramp to the MARC platform. There will be two blue emergency phones, likely with a dedicated 911 line, but that has not been finalized.

Planners are looking at everything in a final pass through of all the documents, with an eye toward 'value engineering.' Cost estimates have been received; the current plan is to go to bid in November with a spring start date. The proposal process will focus on 'best value', which is not necessarily the same as 'low bid'.

Shelters will be installed about eight weeks prior to the start date, once that date is certain.

WMATA is examining a route change for Route 70 buses (70/71/79). The current IOS route has buses making frequent right turns from northbound Colesville onto southbound Georgia, adding a potential new hazard to a problematic intersection. As a safer alternative, WMATA is examining a route that uses East West Highway, travels northbound on Colesville and turns right at Wayne Avenue, avoiding the Colesville/Georgia intersection. The buses will serve terminals on the south side of Wayne between Ramsey and Dixon.

Further information on the IOS and Transit Center can be obtained from the web site listed below:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/dpwt/Capital/DCD/index.asp?pageid=2&pid=342>

- 5. Growth Policy Presentation:** **Richard Hawthorne**, Chief of Transportation Planning/M-NCPPC, discussed the status of proposed changes to the County's Growth Policy (formerly "Annual Growth Policy").

Mr. Hawthorne stated that the County Council is generally in agreement with M-NCPPC recommendations, but there are often discussions about details. The County has several concerns about the proposed changes and how they could affect traffic, air quality, pedestrian safety, transit, water control, etc. The Council would like to add "quality of life" to the list. Other successful regions have adopted sustainability plans, and M-NCPPC believes that is a good approach for Montgomery County.

The key priorities are environmental, economic, and social issues, and to proceed with a large public participation process. Mr. Hawthorne said it would behoove the TMDs to have a representative present during these discussions.

Mr. Hawthorne is confident that the Council will give the go-ahead to proceed with the work. The new policy, if approved, will go into effect July 2008 (fiscal year 2009).

Mr. Hawthorne stated planning for growth is part of the master planning process, and is separate from the growth policy. Growth policy has more to do with the timing of the implementation of the master plan, and judging the adequacy of the facilities. If an area does not provide adequate public facilities, some level of partial mitigation will be required of new development, such as travel demand management, offsite amenities such as bike lanes, sidewalks, etc.

Further details were provided in the handout, which is included in the meeting packet.

More information can also be found at the web site below:

<http://www.mc-mncppc.org/development/agp/agphome.shtm>

**6. Updates: Sgt. Tom Harmon**, Montgomery County Police, updated the group on recent police activities.

- The recent ‘Walk Your Child to School’ event was very successful.
- Police teamed with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) on a pedestrian safety video.
- Police handed out safety fliers in the Langley Park community.
- The ‘Smooth Operator’ campaign has been completed, with 1,890 citations handed out.
- Drivers not stopping for school buses were cited 1,725 times during the month of September; there have been 18,032 citations this year.
- The Jazz Festival went well, with no incidents to report. There were long delays for vehicles attempting to exit the Wayne Avenue garage [this sentence added by amendment at the November meeting].

**Sandra Brecher**, Administrator/Commuter Services, discussed the TMD fee, and how the fees will be used.

WMATA is considering a hike in fares, and Ride On will again mirror the increase. This is not done as a revenue enhancing measure by Ride On, but is necessary in order to keep fares regionally uniform for riders and minimize confusion. WMATA is also thinking of eliminating paper bus transfers and tokens.

Ms. Brecher requested committee input on a parking issue regarding carpoolers to the Silver Spring TMD. Past practice has been to approve carpool parking permits only if one of those pooling worked in the TMD. Recently there has been an increase in requests for car pool permits for pools where all members work outside the TMD, mostly in downtown D.C. Ms. Brecher asked the committee whether they felt Commuter Services should approve pool permits for these pools. Committee consensus was these permits should be issued, while maintaining CSS’s usual follow-up to guard against abuse.

**7. Adjourn.** Meeting ended at 9:35 am.

Next meeting: November 8, 2007.

**Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee (SSTMD AC) Attendance Sheet  
October 11, 2007**

<b>Voting Members (12)</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Chamber Members (3)</b>			
Ali Mahmood	Chevy Chase Bank		X
James S. Polk, Chairman	Technology Service Corporation	X	
Tom Collins	Atlantech Online	X	
<b>Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)</b>			
Edward Furgol	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS		X
Charles Segerman, Vice Chairman	North & West Sector Plan Area	X	
Andy Wexler	CBD Resident		X
<b>TMD Employers less than 50 employees (3)</b>			
Julian Leidman	Bonanza Coin		X
Suvita Melehy	Melehy & Associates		X
Cathy Wilde	Solid Waste Assoc of North America		X
<b>TMD Employers with 50 or more employees (3)</b>			
Vacant Position			
Robin Goudy	Social & Scientific Systems	X	
Geoffrey Kreig	Merchant Link	X	
<b>Non-Voting Members (4)</b>			
Sandra Brecher, DPWT Transit Services	DPWT Director or Designee	X	
Chuck Kines	M-NCPPC		X
Sergeant Thomas Harmon	Montgomery County Police	X	
<b>Staff</b>			
Terrie O'Steen	DPWT, Commuter Services	X	
David Kantor	DPWT, Commuter Services		X
Jim Carlson	DPWT, Commuter Services	X	
<b>Guests</b>			
Richard Hawthorne	M-NCPPC	X	
Donald Scheuerman	DPWT, Building Design Services	X	
Mel Tull	Silver Spring Regional Services Center	X	